

Ex-Facebook manager criticizes company, urges more oversight

By MARCY GORDON and
BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — While accusing the giant social network of pursuing profits over safety, a former Facebook data scientist told Congress Tuesday she believes stricter government oversight could alleviate the dangers the company poses, from harming children to inciting political violence to fueling misinformation.

Frances Haugen, testifying to the Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, presented a wide-ranging condemnation of Facebook. She accused the company of failing to make changes to Instagram after internal research showed apparent harm to some teens and being dishonest in its public fight against hate and misinformation.



Former Facebook employee and whistleblower Frances Haugen testifies during a Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation hearing on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

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Continued from Front

Haugen's accusations were buttressed by tens of thousands of pages of internal research documents she secretly copied before leaving her job in the company's civic integrity unit. But she also offered thoughtful ideas about how Facebook's social media platforms could be made safer. Haugen laid responsibility for the company's profits-over-safety strategy right at the top, with CEO Mark Zuckerberg, but she also expressed empathy for Facebook's dilemma.

Haugen, who says she joined the company in 2019 because "Facebook has the potential to bring out the best in us," said she didn't leak internal documents to a newspaper and then come before Congress in order to destroy the company or call for its breakup, as many consumer advocates and lawmakers of both parties have called for.

Haugen is a 37-year-old data expert from Iowa with a degree in computer engineering and a master's degree in business from Harvard. Prior to being recruited by Facebook, she worked for 15 years at tech companies including Google, Pinterest and Yelp. "Facebook's products harm children, stoke division and weaken our democracy," Haugen said. "The company's leadership knows how to make Facebook and Instagram safer but won't make the necessary changes because they have put their astronomical profits before people."

"Congressional action is needed," she said. "They won't solve this crisis without your help."

Democrats and Republicans have shown a rare unity around the revelations of Facebook's handling of potential risks to



Sen. Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., left, and Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., right speak to former Facebook data scientist Frances Haugen, center, during a hearing of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security, on Capitol Hill, Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

teens from Instagram, and bipartisan bills have proliferated to address social media and data-privacy problems. But getting legislation through Congress is a heavy slog. The Federal Trade Commission has taken a stricter stance toward Facebook and other tech giants in recent years.

"Whenever you have Republicans and Democrats on the same page, you're probably more likely to see something," said Hans.

Haugen suggested, for example, that the minimum age for Facebook's popular Instagram photo-sharing platform could be increased from the current 13 to 16 or 18.

She also acknowledged the limitations of possible remedies. Facebook, like other social media companies, uses algorithms to rank and recommend content to users' news feeds. When the ranking is based on engagement — likes, shares and comments — as it is now with Facebook, users can be vulnerable to manipulation and misin-

formation. Haugen would prefer the ranking to be chronological. But, she testified, "People will choose the more addictive option even if it is leading their daughters to eating disorders."

Haugen said a 2018 change to the content flow contributed to more divisiveness and ill will in a network ostensibly created to bring people closer together. Despite the enmity that the new algorithms were feeding, she said Facebook found that they helped keep people coming back — a pattern that helped the social media giant sell more of the digital ads that generate the vast majority of its revenue.

Haugen said she believed Facebook didn't set out to build a destructive platform. "I have a huge amount of empathy for Facebook," she said. "These are really hard questions, and I think they feel a little trapped and isolated."

But "in the end, the buck stops with Mark," Haugen said, referring to Zucker-

berg, who controls more than 50% of Facebook's voting shares. "There is no one currently holding Mark accountable but himself." Haugen said she believed that Zuckerberg was familiar with some of the internal research showing concerns for potential negative impacts of Instagram.

The subcommittee is examining Facebook's use of information its own researchers compiled about Instagram. Those findings could indicate potential harm for some of its young users, especially girls, although Facebook publicly downplayed possible negative impacts. For some of the teens devoted to Facebook's popular photo-sharing platform, the peer pressure generated by the visually focused Instagram led to mental health and body-image problems, and in some cases, eating disorders and suicidal thoughts, the research leaked by Haugen showed.

One internal study cited 13.5% of teen girls saying Instagram makes thoughts

of suicide worse and 17% of teen girls saying it makes eating disorders worse.

She also has filed complaints with federal authorities alleging that Facebook's own research shows that it amplifies hate, misinformation and political unrest, but that the company hides what it knows.

After recent reports in The Wall Street Journal based on documents she leaked to the newspaper raised a public outcry, Haugen revealed her identity in a CBS "60 Minutes" interview aired Sunday night.

As the public relations debacle over the Instagram research grew last week, Facebook put on hold its work on a kids' version of Instagram, which the company says is meant mainly for tweens aged 10 to 12.

Haugen said that Facebook prematurely turned off safeguards designed to thwart misinformation and incitement to violence after Joe Biden defeated Donald Trump in last year's presidential election, alleging that doing so contributed to the deadly Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol. After the November election, Facebook dissolved the civic integrity unit where Haugen had been working. That was the moment, she said, when she realized that "I don't trust that they're willing to actually invest what needs to be invested to keep Facebook from being dangerous."

Haugen says she told Facebook executives when they recruited her that she wanted to work in an area of the company that fights misinformation, because she had lost a friend to online conspiracy theories.

Facebook maintains that Haugen's allegations are misleading and insists there is no evidence to support the premise that it is the primary cause of social polarization. □

Rise in single people, who earn less, worries researchers

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER**

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Jessica Kaschube has relied on the economic advantages of being married to pursue her career.

During almost a dozen years of marriage, the extra income from her husband's more stable jobs — and his health insurance — has enabled Kaschube to move from Montana to Alabama to Florida, advancing her career as a theater administrator in an arts profession known for low pay and instability.

"Each move allowed me to make another jump in my career path. He always had a stable income," said Kaschube, 35, who lives in metro Orlando. "Because I had health insurance and a spouse that had an income, we could always pay our bills. We weren't rolling in money, but that was a privilege."

A new study from Pew Research Center released Tuesday underscores the economic advantages of being married, especially as the share of single people in the U.S. has grown over the past three decades. The flip side, of course, is that it's harder to be single, researchers say, since the unpartnered population earns less and has less education. Unpartnered men, in particular, are less likely to be employed.

The share of the U.S. population not living with a romantic partner during prime working years has grown from 29% to 38% from 1990 to 2019. Around 28% of single people between the ages of 25 to 54 are living with their parents, compared to 2% for married or partnered couples. Additionally, the growth of the unpartnered population over almost 30 years has been sharper in men than women, according to the Pew study, which used decennial census and American Community Survey data.

Policymakers should take notice since the unpartnered population is generally economically disadvantaged and less healthy

compared to married people or those living with a romantic partner, said Richard Fry, a senior economist at Pew.

"When we look at their health outcomes, they are more likely to engage in risky behavior such as binge drinking. Single adults don't live as long," Fry said. "Single adults are an at-risk population."

Bella DePaulo, a research psychologist at the University of California, Santa Barbara, cautioned that this Pew report could further stigmatize the unpartnered population "if it is used as a way of telling a misleading story about those poor single people and what is supposedly wrong with them."

"Yes, single people are paid less, have fewer resources available to them when they need help, and are disadvantaged in other ways, too. But some of that — maybe a lot of it — is based on discrimination against single people, not on anything that is supposedly wrong with them," DePaulo said in an email.

The rise in single people has been driven by a three-decade decline in marriage. The share of adults ages 25 to 54 who are married dropped from two-thirds in 1990 to just over half in 2019, and the share of people who have never married grew from 17% to 33%. While the unpartnered population includes people who are separated, divorced or widowed, all the growth comes from people who have never been married, the Pew report said.

The growth in the unpartnered population has been sharper in men than women. It was around 29% for both sexes in 1990, but it jumped to 39% for men and 36% for women by 2019. Single women earned more in 1990, but their advantage was reversed by 2019 as partnered women became more likely to remain in the workforce.

Single men, meanwhile, have fallen further behind partnered men in earnings and education. Researchers have concluded it's a combination of high-



In this Thursday, Nov. 30, 2006, file photo, Leanne Kesler, the president of the Floral Design Institute is shown working with a bridal bouquet in Portland, Ore.

Associated Press

income men being more attractive as partners, and cohabitating boosting men's economic fortunes.

"We have a 'chicken or egg' problem. It's a little bit of both, especially for guys," Fry said. "They are assessed on their financial capabilities, so some of this is because the unpartnered guys tend to have lower earnings. They are having a harder time. They are considered a less suitable partner. It's low earnings and being less educated that is causing them to be unpartnered."

Despite the disadvantages, many single people find that the rewards of being unattached outweigh any economic benefits of being partnered. That includes DePaulo, who wrote an essay for Medium last month celebrating her 50th anniversary of being single as she turned 68. □

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FBI raids offices of New York City police sergeants union

NEW YORK (AP) — Federal agents raided the offices Tuesday of a New York City police union, the Sergeants Benevolent Association, and the Long Island home of its bombastic leader, who has clashed with city officials over his incendiary tweets and hard-line tactics.

FBI spokesperson Martin Feely said agents were "carrying out a law enforcement action in connection with an ongoing investigation."

Along with the union's Manhattan headquarters, agents also searched union president Ed Mullins' home in Port Washington, Long Island, Feely said.

Messages seeking comment were left with Mullins and the union, which represents about 13,000 active and retired NYPD sergeants and controls a \$264 million retirement fund.

Calls to Mullins' cellphone went to a full voicemail box.

Mullins, a police sergeant detached to full-time union work, is in the middle of department disciplinary proceedings for tweeting NYPD paperwork last year regarding the arrest of Mayor Bill de Blasio's



In this May 31, 2017, file photo, Sgt. Ed Mullins, the head of the Sergeants Benevolent Association, center, speaks to the media outside of the Bronx Supreme Court in the Bronx borough of New York. Associated Press

daughter during protests over the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd.

Mullins' department trial began last month but was postponed indefinitely after one of his lawyers suffered a medical emergency.

Mullins' lawyer denies he violated department guidelines, arguing arrest papers with Chiara de Blasio's personal identifying information, such as her date of birth and address, were already posted online.

Mullins is also suing the department, claiming they were trying to muzzle him by grilling him and recommending disciplinary action over his online missives, which have included claims that officers were at war with city leaders.

Asked about the raid Tuesday, Mayor de Blasio told reporters he didn't have enough information to comment.

"I think he's been a divisive voice," de Blasio said of

Mullins. "But that doesn't cause me to feel anything in this situation because I don't know what's happening. All I hear is an FBI raid. I don't know the specifics, I don't know who it's directed at. I want to really hear the details before I comment further."

The Sergeants Benevolent Association runs a Widows and Children's Fund, a scholarship fund for members' children, and Blue Christmas, which distributes toys to needy

children.

Mullins, a police officer since 1982, rose to sergeant, a rank above detective but below captain and lieutenant, in 1993 and was elected president of the sergeants union in 2002.

Under Mullins' leadership, the union has fought for better pay — with contracts resulting in pay increases of 40% — and staked a prominent position in the anti-reform movement.

Though he's a full-time union chief, city law has allowed Mullins to retain his sergeant's position and collect salaries from both the union and the police department. Last year, Mullins made more than \$220,000 between the two, according to public records: \$88,757 from the union and \$133,195 from the NYPD.

The NYPD referred questions about Mullins to the FBI.

Along with Mullins' periodic appearances on cable networks like Fox News and Newsmax — including one in which he was pictured in front of a QAnon mug — perhaps the union's most powerful megaphone is its 45,000-follower Twitter account, which Mullins runs himself, often to fiery effect. □

Beaten in last 3 races, Arpaio running for mayor of suburb



In this Aug. 26, 2019, file photo, former Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio poses for a portrait at his private office in Fountain Hills, Ariz.

Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Beaten in his last three elections, former six-term Sheriff Joe Arpaio is attempting another comeback, this time running for mayor of the affluent Phoenix suburb where he has lived for the last two

decades.

The former lawman on Tuesday announced his entry in the 2022 mayor's race in Fountain Hills, a town of about 25,000 people on the northeastern edge of metro Phoenix.

After getting crushed by a Democratic challenger in 2016 after 24 years as sheriff, Arpaio finished third in a Republican primary for a U.S. Senate seat in 2018 and second in the GOP primary in his 2020 bid to win back the sheriff's post. In both comeback attempts, Arpaio lost the vote in Fountain Hills.

In an interview, Arpaio said his last comeback bids failed because he entered those races too late in the election cycle and that his early entry in the mayor's race is an attempt to avoid the same fate.

He rejects criticism that he should walk away from public life. The 89-year-old said he remains in good health and wants to push a pro-business agenda on

behalf of the town. "It's not in me to retire," Arpaio said. Arpaio, a skilled political fundraiser who spent more than \$12 million in his 2016 sheriff's campaign, has \$284,000 in campaign money, according to his latest campaign finance reports.

Arpaio was voted out as sheriff in 2016 amid voter frustration over his headline-grabbing tactics and legal troubles, including his disobedience of a judge's 2011 order to stop his traffic patrols that led to his 2017 criminal contempt of court conviction, which was pardoned by then-President Donald Trump.

Before the federal government and the courts stripped away his immigration powers, Arpaio led 20

large-scale traffic patrols that targeted immigrants and more than 80 business raids to bust people working in the United States without permission.

While his defiant streak played well with voters for many years, Arpaio faced heavy criticism for taking on policies that he knew were controversial and racking up \$147 million in taxpayer-funded legal bills. Though he billed himself as the toughest sheriff in America, his agency botched the investigations of more than 400 sex-crimes complaints made to his office. Fountain Hills doesn't operate a police department and instead contracts with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services. □

U.S., France edge closer to rapprochement after AUKUS spat

PARIS (AP) — France and the United States edged closer Tuesday toward rapprochement after the Biden administration's exclusion of Washington's oldest ally from a new Indo-Pacific security initiative ignited French anger.

French President Emmanuel Macron and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken met in Paris to explore ways to overcome the rift over the deal, which scuttled a multibillion-dollar French submarine contract with Australia and led Macron's government to take the unprecedented step of recalling its ambassador to the U.S.

Macron and Blinken explored potential U.S.-French cooperation in the Indo-Pacific and other areas in the roughly 40-minute one-on-one session, according to a senior U.S. State Department official.

Shortly after their engagement, the White House announced in a statement that President Joe Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, would meet his French counterpart, Emmanuel Bonne, in Paris later this week "as part of our ongoing consultations on shared bilateral and regional interests."

Macron and Blinken's meeting was the highest-level in-person contact between the two countries since the controversy erupted last month with the Sept. 15 announcement of a three-way agreement



Secretary of State Antony Blinken attends a meeting with French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian in Paris, Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021.

Associated Press

between Australia, Britain and the U.S., known as AUKUS, that pointedly left out France and other European nations. The State Department official said the two discussed possible joint projects that could be announced by Macron and President Joe Biden when they meet this month at a specific date and venue that has yet to be decided. Macron and Biden agreed to try to repair the damage in a Sept. 22 phone call.

The White House statement said Sullivan and Bonne would further explore those projects in "preparations for the meeting of President Biden and President Macron in Europe later this month." The State Depart-

ment official didn't elaborate on what those projects might be, but said they would likely involve the Indo-Pacific and Western efforts to blunt China's growing there and elsewhere, NATO and other trans-Atlantic objectives involving the European Union, and counterterrorism cooperation in Africa's Sahel region. The official said Macron and Blinken had agreed to use the spat as an opportunity to "deepen and strengthen coordination" and characterized the talks as "very productive," while allowing that "a lot of hard work remains ahead."

The official spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity to discuss the

closed-door talks between Macron and Blinken at the Elysee Palace that hadn't appeared on Blinken's official schedule for the day. The roughly meeting came amid repeated French demands for the U.S. to restore trust that was ruptured with the announcement of a the AUKUS deal.

A French official, speaking under customary anonymity, said the "at length, face-to-face meeting" came immediately after Blinken had seen Bonne.

Bonne, the official said, saw Blinken "in order to study the ways of reengaging the relationship following the recall of the French ambassador, and to help restore confidence between

France and the United States."

U.S. officials have acknowledged that the AUKUS announcement was handled poorly and could have benefitted from coordination with France and other members of the European Union, all of which were left out. They have also signaled a desire to make amends, although they have suggested France's rage is an overreaction.

France responded with fury and briefly recalled its ambassadors to Washington and Canberra in an unprecedented display of pique.

French officials called it "a stab in the back" by allies and expressed disappointment that it had happened after Biden had proclaimed "America is back" and pledged to restore and value trans-Atlantic relations that had soured during the Trump administration.

The French have said repeatedly it will take much time and work to overcome the rift and that the incident underscores the need for Europe to develop its own security and defense plans as well as adopting a European strategy to counter growing challenges from China.

Blinken is in the French capital for a two-day international economic conference that has been overshadowed by the AUKUS controversy that erupted with the announcement of the project. □

Israeli president in Ukraine to honor Holocaust victims

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Israel's president arrived in Ukraine on Tuesday to honor the victims of the Babi Yar massacre eight decades after one of the most infamous Nazi mass slaughters of World War II.

Nearly 34,000 Jews were killed within 48 hours in Babi Yar, a ravine in the Ukrainian capital, when Kyiv was under Nazi occupation in 1941. SS troops carried out the massacre with local collaborators.

"It is imperative to keep speaking about this hor-

rific event and learn its lessons," Israeli President Isaac Herzog said before arriving for the first state visit of his presidency.

"The only way to build a present and future in which atrocities and crimes against humanity can find no foothold is to study the past, including the Holocaust and persecution of the Jewish people," Herzog said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said after meeting with Herzog, "The memory of these victims

is sacred for us, for each Ukrainian."

Zelenskyy, Herzog and German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier are set to attend a ceremony Wednesday to remember the victims of the massacre.

The three are also scheduled to inaugurate a memorial center, still under construction, dedicated to the stories of Eastern European Jews who were killed and buried in mass graves during the Holocaust. Of the 2.5 million Jews, 1.5 million died in Ukraine alone. □



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, right, shakes hands with Israeli President Isaac Herzog during a welcome ceremony ahead of their meeting in Kyiv, Ukraine, Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021.

Associated Press

Iraq's militias seek to consolidate political power in vote

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA

BAGHDAD (AP) — Among the candidates running in Iraq's general elections this week is a leader in one of the country's most hard-line and powerful militias with close ties to Iran who once battled U.S. troops.

Hussein Muanis joins a long list of candidates from among Iran-backed Shiite factions vying for parliament seats. But he is the first to be openly affiliated with Kataib Hezbollah, or Hezbollah Brigades, signaling the militant group's formal entry into politics.

The group is on a U.S. list of terrorist organizations and is accused by U.S. officials of targeting American forces in Iraq. Muanis himself was jailed by the Americans for four years from 2008 to 2012 for fighting U.S. troops.

"Our entrance into politics is a religious obligation. I battled the occupiers militarily and now I will battle them politically," he said, speaking to The Associated Press recently in his office in central Baghdad.

Muanis, 50, says he has given up his militia fatigues in favor of politics. He now heads a political movement called "Harakat Huqooq," or Rights Movement, which is fielding 32



Hussein Muanis, the leader of a political movement called "Harakat Huqooq," Arabic for Rights Movement, center, salutes his supporters at an election rally before the upcoming parliamentary elections in Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, Sept. 3, 2021.

Associated Press

candidates and an electoral program stressing the departure of U.S. troops from Iraq.

The Kataib Hezbollah group has been struck by U.S. forces near the Iraq-Syria border several times. In December 2019, the U.S. carried out strikes targeting military sites belonging to the group after blaming it for a rocket barrage that killed a U.S. defense contractor at a military compound near Kirkuk in north-

ern Iraq. Around 20 militiamen were killed.

Harakat Huqooq's campaign advertisements decorate the streets of Shiite dominated areas in Baghdad and southern Iraq.

Iraq is holding elections on Oct. 10, the fifth parliamentary vote since the U.S.-led invasion that ousted dictator Saddam Hussein in 2003, which shifted the country's power base from minority Arab Sunnis to majority Shiites. The vote was brought

forward by one year in response to mass protests that broke out in late 2019 over endemic corruption, poor services and unemployment.

While a new electoral law has allowed more independents to run, Shiite groups continue to dominate the electoral landscape with a tight race expected between pro-Iran parties and their militias — the largest of which is the Fatah alliance — and the political bloc

of Shiite nationalist heavy-weight Moqtada al-Sadr, the biggest winner in the 2018 elections.

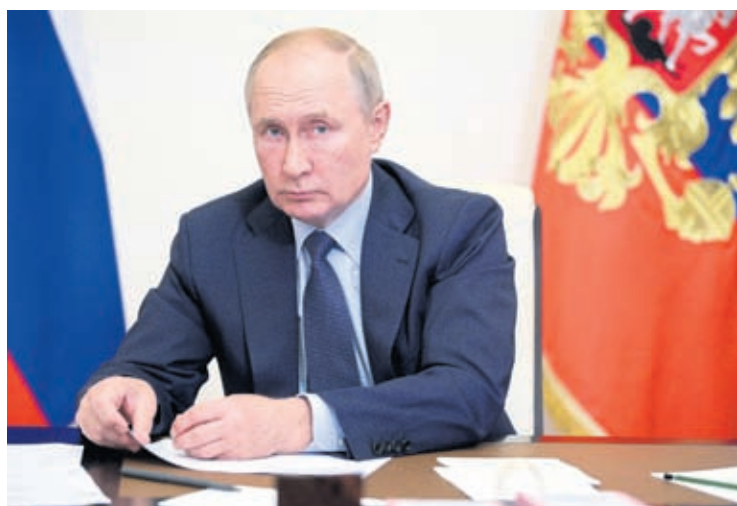
The Fatah alliance includes leaders associated with the paramilitary Popular Mobilization Units, an umbrella group for mostly pro-Iran state-sanctioned militias, including Kataib Hezbollah. But the group has lost some popularity following the 2019 protests, with activists accusing hard-line armed factions of brutally suppressing protesters by using live ammunition and tear gas to disperse crowds.

Protesters demanding change and reform were also often railing against Iran's heavy-handed interferences in Iraqi politics. More than 600 were killed and thousands injured during the months-long protests.

Analysts say the entry of Kataib Hezbollah — the group is separate from the Lebanese group of the same name — might be an attempt by Iran to strengthen its allies inside Iraq's parliament.

Bassam al-Qazwini, a Baghdad-based political analyst, said after the 2019 protest movement Iran pushed for hard-liners to go into politics. □

Putin calls for smoother transition to green technologies



Russian President Vladimir Putin leads a cabinet meeting via video conference at the Novo-Ogaryovo residence outside Moscow, Russia, Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021.

Associated Press

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday that "the hysteria" engulfing European

energy markets has been driven by insufficient investment in energy industries, arguing that the world needs a smoother transition to green energy technolo-

gies.

Speaking during a Cabinet meeting, Putin claimed that the current situation with soaring natural gas prices in Europe was partly rooted in the lack of investment.

"See what's going in Europe — there is hysteria and mess in the markets," Putin said. "Why? Because nobody takes it seriously. Some speculate on the climate change issues, some underestimate certain things and some others start cutting investments in the mining industries."

He said Russia wouldn't repeat the mistakes others have made in adopting green technologies.

"There must be a smooth transition," he said. "We see what certain unbalanced

decisions, unbalanced development and sharp twists can lead to. We can see it well today in the European energy markets."

Putin has repeatedly said that Russia, a top oil and gas exporter, will abide by its obligations under the 2015 Paris agreement intended to avert the climate change. At the same time, he emphasized that efforts to cut emissions mustn't be too burdensome for the Russian economy, which relies heavily on fossil fuel exports.

"The tasks of reducing a negative impact on climate mustn't become a heavy burden for business and our citizens," the Russian leader said Tuesday. "Just the other way round, the decisions we make

must help spur growth and technological development of the Russian economy."

Putin argued that Russia has a strong edge in hydro-power and nuclear power generation and should develop them, but noted the need to ensure a "sustainable development of the oil and gas complex."

Some in the West see Russia's climate change goals as not ambitious enough as the waste from burning fossil fuels heats up the planet. Moscow has faced demands to sign up for a future "net zero" emissions target at the United Nations-sponsored climate negotiations that open in Glasgow on Oct. 31. The Kremlin hasn't revealed its stance on the issue yet. □



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Guatemala judge says those he's sentenced seeking revenge

By SONIA PÉREZ D.

Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) —

One of Guatemala's most prominent judges faces the possibility of losing his immunity from legal action in a case that he claims is meant to intimidate the independent judges in a country whose judicial system is widely seen as under attack.

Guatemala's Supreme Court on Wednesday was expected to receive an investigator's report on a 2019 traffic confrontation between Judge Pablo Xitumul and a police officer, both of whom accuse the other of abuse of authority. The court could remove the immunity from prosecution granted to judges, opening Xitumul to legal action by people he has sentenced to prison — a group that includes numerous powerful figures, including former dictator Efraín Ríos Montt and former Vice President Roxana Baldetti.

The Supreme Court often decides such cases on the day they are submitted.



Judge Pablo Xitumul holds documents related to a case as he talks with an assistant inside his office before a hearing in Guatemala City, Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021.

Associated Press

The judge received threats following an 80-year sentence for genocide he imposed in 2013 on Ríos Montt — which was later overturned by the country's Constitutional Court. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

ordered the government take measures to protect Xitumul and other judges on Guatemala's High Risk court division.

He claims opponents are seizing upon the 2019 traffic incident to send a message to other officials who

act against the corrupt and powerful.

Police had stopped Xitumul's vehicle in front of his home, saying it seemed suspicious, and told him to get out so they could search it.

The judge, who had his family inside the vehicle refused, saying he had done nothing wrong.

The disagreement led to to insults and a struggle, in which an officer grabbed Xitumul by the neck. Following the incident, Xitumul reported the officer for abuse of authority and the police reported the judge for the same, and for obstructing an officer. Prosecutors pursued the police claim against Xitumul while seeking to dismiss the judge's claim against police. □

Son of ousted Philippine dictator to seek presidency

MANILA, Philippines (AP)

— The son and namesake of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who was toppled in a 1986 revolt, announced Tuesday that he would seek the presidency in next year's elections in what activists say is an attempt to whitewash a dark period in the country's history marked by plunder and human rights atrocities.

Former senator Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. said in a brief Facebook video that he would unite Filipinos to be able to overcome

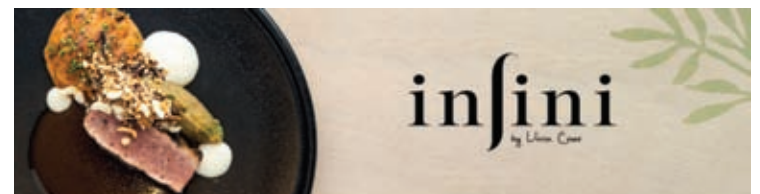
the coronavirus pandemic that has destroyed lives, battered the economy and brought widespread misery. Issues surrounding the Marcoses, however, continue to stoke political divisions more than three decades after the dictator's downfall.

"We must face the challenge as one — as one country, as one people," Marcos Jr. said.

"I will bring that form of unifying leadership back to our country."

Loretta Ann Rosales, a former chairwoman of the

Commission on Human Rights and a political detainee who was tortured and molested during the Marcos era, said his presidential bid "seeks to institutionalize the dark, corrupt and tyrannical legacy of his father and sabotage our efforts to exact full accountability from his family." "We must not allow him to use his family's ill-gotten wealth to fund his presidential ambition, whitewash their crimes against the people and complete their quest for historical distortions," Rosales said. □



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Welcome event for students organised by municipality of Amsterdam

AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS — For the tenth time now, Amsterdam is taking in a new batch of students from Curaçao, Aruba, Bonaire, Sint Maarten, Saba and Sint Eustatius. This year, the grand welcome will take place on Thursday, October 21. The 2020 event could not go ahead due to COVID-19 restrictions. That is why students who started university, HBO (University of Applied Sciences) or ROC (regional training centre) in 2020 are just as welcome.

The municipality of Amsterdam has been organising this official welcome since 2011. So, this year is the tenth anniversary, and it'll be an extra festive edition. By organising this meeting, the municipality aims to give the students a good start. It takes quite some guts at such a young age to choose going abroad to study in the Netherlands, far away from home. It comes as no surprise that this is hard, but the students are very much looking forward to it and appear to be optimistically confident.

Diverse programme

Amsterdam is offering the young people a diverse welcome programme in the council chamber of Amsterdam City Hall. A delegation of the Amsterdam city government will be present, as will be Cabinet representatives of the Ministers Plenipotentiary of Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. There will also be an info market for the students, where they can get help with all their queries on housing, studying and living in Amsterdam.

People shape the city

The Amsterdam City Council is hoping for the students to settle in and that they will contribute to the typical traits of Amsterdam. It's wonderful to get something from the city, but it's even more wonderful to give it something in return. It's people who give the city its character: a place where everyone feels at home and likes to live.

Special connection

This year is the tenth time for the welcome to take place. It's a lovely tradition the city is proud of. It

underlines the special connection of the city with the Caribbean part of the kingdom.

Sign up for the welcome

Are you a student from the Caribbean who started studying in Amsterdam in 2020 or 2021? Sign up now via this link (students only!): <https://welkomstudenten.evenementenorganisatie-amsterdam.nl/Q>

Meet Anton Erasmus!

Last August, in the run-up to the welcome, Tanja Fraai met up with a few Caribbean students. Exhausted from a long journey, but full of expectations of what is about to come. A new life, far away from home. It's exciting, but also fun.

One of those students is 19-year-old Aruban Anton Erasmus. He managed to find accommodation in a container house at the Zuiderzeeweg in the Amsterdam district Zeeburg. He has been busy painting and decorating during the first weeks. He'll be studying International Business & Management at the Amsterdam University of Ap-



plied Sciences. "I love Amsterdam, because of the hustle and bustle. Plus, I love the canals and the people that live here", says Anton. "My goal is to pass my propaedeutic year. But I also want to make time to get to know new people – it's not good to linger in the Caribbean circle only. Sports is a nice way of quickly meeting new people, so I want to pick up boxing at a club. And absolutely, I'd also like to see Ajax play. Christmas still seems far away, but time flies. I don't think I'll return to Aruba then, but stay in Amsterdam. Many students are saying it's best to stay in the

Netherlands for a year, to prevent you from getting homesick. I'll also look for a job on the side. Maybe for a delivery service. I'll buy a moped or a cheap bike for it, and I can use it for going to uni and exploring the city more."

Note to the editorial team (not to be released) Information about the welcome on October 21 available via Tanja Fraai, email: info@tanjafraai.nl Mobile: + 31 6 16 970 600.

The meeting will take place provisionally. We observe all legal directives regarding COVID-19. □

Prohibited by law:

Tourist leaving the island with seashells, white sand and corals



ORANJESTAD — For the last months the customs department at the airport intercepted many tourists leaving the island with seashells, white sand and corals as souvenirs.

Conform the international treaty of CITES and our local law which protects our Flora & Fauna, it is completely prohibited to take any seashell, sand and coral outside of Aruba, this in order to protect our environment. The high amount of seashell, sand and corals confiscated is very strange and it is suspected that our own locals are the once selling these to the tourists, which

is unacceptable.

Upon confiscation at the airport the tourist also faces a fine that they have to pay before leaving. This is surely not a pleasant experience for the tourist. This also leads to a negative reaction which can put our tourism in a negative light.

Let's all give nature the respect it deserves by protecting our environment. Stop collecting seashells, white sand and corals from our shores and stop selling these to our tourist. We want our future generations and visitors to enjoy the beauty of our beaches, shells and corals. Let's all protect what is ours! □

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The Brownstone Ribs & Seafood | Subway

The Kitchen Table enters seventh year of gastronomic success on NEW location: A very fine culinary journey of Caribbean and Peruvian fusion cuisine

EAGLE BEACH — The Kitchen Table is an elegant, classy, intimate, high-quality restaurant with an exceptional dining set-up. Dining here is an experience, a kind of sitting- at your- best- friend's or family's kitchen table where you feel and taste that the food contains love. Are you looking for something different, an ecstatic foody trip, than this is where you need to go.

The 7-8 course gastronomic journey will start with sparkling wine at the patio of The Kitchen Table's new location at Paradise Beach Villas as of 6.00PM. Around 6.30PM guests will be guided for a memorable dinner on the second floor of the other popular restaurant Asi Es Mi Peru. The dining concept reflects extraordinary, elegant and exquisite dishes from the Caribbean, Peruvian fusion and international cuisine created by the owners, Chef David Lizano and his team. To pair the perfect wines three sommeliers were invited to make the selection.

The interior of the restaurant is if you were in an elegant establishment in Lima, the capital city of Peru. You feel elevated in the top of the building where dinner takes place in an intimate setting. The typical, colorful Peruvian fabrics dress the ceiling while the large windows dignify the room. There are only 16 seats available creating an intimacy underlined by the owner's personal attention. "This is an amazing experience," says

Robert J. Giordanella from New York. "The food is truly divine," shares a local guest. An evening at The Kitchen Table will be noted as unforgettable in your book of vacation memories, as it stands out from the regular island dinners.

It is all about consistency

The Peruvian-born Roxanna Salinas and her husband Jan van Nes are the secret formula behind The Kitchen Table's success. The couple takes a personal approach to what they do, this is not about running a business as usual. This is more about making you feel welcomed home, as well as being pampered. They bring top hospitality, experience and authenticity to the table. Within this gourmet dinner concept the two blended the Peruvian culinary art of Roxanna's top kitchen team and Jan's expertise from The Kitchen Table. The result is one big trip of delight, indulge and tickling of your taste buds. The Kitchen Table welcomes you with open arms every Tuesday to Saturday.

Peruvian touch

In the last ten years, Peru has been recognized as one of the world's best culinary destinations, and for seven consecutive years, the South American country has won the award for the Best Culinary destination at the Worlds Travel Awards. Biodiversity combined multiculturalism are the reasons why



Peru is so rich in gastronomy. You can travel through the last 500 years, touch a mix of cultures whenever you taste authentic Peruvian cuisine. The Kitchen Table brings this epicurean delicacies to Aruba paired perfectly with the best wines and they will make you understand why Peru is at the height of today's gastronomy.

The Kitchen Table is open from Tuesday to Saturday. Have a peak on their website www.thekitchentableinaruba.com or call them at +297-280 7117. □





Workshop “Continuous Development & Digital 60+” organized by FMTB was successful

ORANJESTAD – The Foundation Movement is Life (Fundacion Movimiento Ta Bida - FMTB) through its project Together old, Old Together and in cooperation with SETAR, organized the workshop “Continuous Development & Digital 60+”.

The workshop is in the framework of the goal of the foundation to train our senior citizens in digital literacy. Information and training in the digital field are the fervent wishes of senior citizens according to a survey.

For three months (twice a

week) the representative of SETAR, Mrs. Kimberley Boekhoudt gave a workshop to 28 persons. The participants were members of various social groups of senior citizens. In turn, these persons shared the basic information in different districts to the various leaders of senior citizens (60+) during February through workshops in Savaneta, Santa Cruz, Bubali, Playa y Dakota. At the end of these workshops, they organized an informative day for all participants at the Cas di Cultura. Different banks, companies, and organizations attended

and presented their app, digital payment systems, and other valuable information to our senior citizens.

Recently they completed the third phase of the project for 2021. This time FMTB offered a workshop of four weeks to all interested senior citizens in San Nicolas, Paradera, Noord, Dakota, Playa, and at the Cas di OPPA. As soon as these workshops were made public, the seats filled immediately. All participants were happy with the workshops and requested more information. This time the

presentations by the companies will take place through information sessions at Centro di Bario Playa Pabao. The reason is that October is the month of the senior citizens, and the project Together old, Old Together wishes to give the information to more persons and in another manner.

The coordinator Mrs. Rosa Leon and the president of FMTB, Mr. Rudy Leysner, evaluated the project Continuous Development & Digital 60+ with the representative of SETAR, Mrs. Juliska Henriquez, and the

leaders of the workshops. These workshops reached more than 300 persons. Due to the existing demand and need for digital knowledge among senior citizens, SETAR is willing to help with the training.

Prime Minister Mrs. Evelyn Wever Croes and the Minister in charge of Elderly affairs, Mr. Ursell Arends, guarantee their support to our senior citizens.

FMTB thanks SETAR, Cede Aruba, community centers, organizations, and instructors that contributed to the success of these workshops. □



ORANJESTAD — Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Arikok National Park

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the

hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whip-tail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero)

and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website www.arubanationalpark.org

Natural Bridge

One of Aruba's favorite tourist attractions is the Natural Bridge. For thousands of years, pounding waves and strong winds have slowly chiseled away the limestone cliffs along Aruba's north coast to create several natural bridges. The largest of these bridges used to be the famous Natural Bridge. The bridge was a formation of coral limestone cut out by years of pounding surf, and was

one of the largest of these types of spans in the world. It stood some 23 feet (7 meters) above sea level and spans more than 100 feet (30 meters). Unfortunately the bridge collapsed on September 2, 2005. Despite this, it is still the most photographed natural bridge and it remains a popular tourist attraction in Aruba, with the adjacent and intact Baby Bridge also meriting a visit. The Natural Bridge is the perfect stop while touring Aruba. There is no admission fee or set hours for visiting. Quench your thirst with refreshing beverages & refuel your tank with local snacks.

The Lourdes Grotto

Named in commemoration

of the famous French religious landmark, was created under the guidance of a priest named "Erkamp" and parishioners in the year 1958. The grotto, a shrine built into the rocks is located in Seroe Preto, just off the main road to San Nicolas. A statue of the Virgin Mary, weighing 700 kilos, was hoisted into place in the grotto. Every year, on February 11 (feast of Lady of Lourdes), a procession leaves from the St. Theresa church in San Nicolas to the grotto, where a mass is performed. The grotto is located road-side and can be visited daily. Just make sure you park safely in the event you wish to stop for pictures at this location. □

Millennial Money: The case for being boring with your money

By **SARA RATHNER** of **Nerd-Wallet**

The idea of gaining wealth in flashy ways isn't new. After all, Charles Ponzi, for whom Ponzi schemes were named, defrauded investors more than 100 years ago with a get-rich-quick scheme built on a foundation of lies. Today, speculative investments, multilevel marketing companies and other risky efforts to turn a profit still lay seductive traps. You can always leave your money alone in an interest-bearing account and let time do its thing, but that doesn't exactly make for exciting party conversations, does it? So we open and close accounts. We invest in hot stocks and sell them at the first sign of bad news. We mess with our money because, in our minds, growing wealth is supposed to take effort. "In almost everything else we do, there's a payoff to activity: If I want to be a good runner, I should run every day. If I want to be a good painter, I should constantly practice," Morgan Housel, partner at The Collaborative Fund and author of "The Psychology of Money," said in an email. "But if you want to be a good investor, the best thing by far for people to do is not trade, not tinker, just leave it alone — and I think that's just so counterintuitive because it's so unique to investing." In a world full of financial



In this Nov. 15, 2017, file photo, new \$1 bills with the signatures of U.S. Treasurer Jovita Carranza and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin are cut and stacked at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington.

Associated Press

influencers peddling products and friends bragging about buying NFTs, it's perfectly fine to manage your money in a mostly yawn-inducing way. Here's why.

BEING BORING GIVES YOU MORE TIME TO LIVE YOUR LIFE

Dealing with your money is a necessary chore, and it's not exactly fun. Thankfully, we live in efficient times. In a few minutes, you can set up automatic money transfers that quietly send your cash into separate accounts serving different purposes. Why keep money management on your to-do list when it can happen on its own quite literally

while you sleep?

"Money is a means by which you live your life, not life itself," Meg Bartelt, financial planner and founder of Flow Financial Planning, said in an email. "The more complicated, changeable or scary your investments are, the more time you spend working on them or thinking about them, and therefore the less time you have to live life."

BEING BORING KEEPS YOU FROM MAKING RASH DECISIONS

It's important to take a peek at your investment accounts periodically, but obsessing over every market move is exhausting

and counterproductive. It can lead to making reactive decisions that hurt your wealth in the long run.

Choosing to be boring with your money is an exercise in letting go of the illusion of total control. Yes, there will always be round-the-clock financial news, but not everything happening in the larger economy affects you as an individual. Turn off news and stock market alerts on your phone so you no longer feel that itch to react. Instead, mindfully decide when to watch the news and check on your accounts so you can stay informed with less stress.

WHAT BORING MONEY

MANAGEMENT LOOKS LIKE — CREATE A PLAN YOU (MOSTLY) STICK TO:

Bartelt finds that, whether her clients avoid their money or obsessively track it, it's because they all feel the same emotion: fear.

The antidote is a financial plan based on specific goals and values. "Having a plan is reassuring," she said. "Once they have the plan, or hell, once they know they're going to have one, people relax." Base your savings and investing goals on what you intend to spend money on in the short-, medium- and long-term. Leave wiggle room for life changes and other uncertainties, because those are guaranteed to happen.

— PREPARE FOR EMERGEN-

CIES: There's nothing particularly sexy about emergency funds, life insurance and up-to-date wills, but should the unexpected happen, these things can help you stay financially steady.

— AUTOMATE YOUR MON-

EY: Transfer funds automatically from checking to savings or from checking to a brokerage account. Contributing to a 401(k) through your job is automation, too, since that money comes out of your paycheck directly. Making regular contributions to different accounts, and increasing them as your budget allows and goals shift, will grow your nest egg. □

EU lifts Anguilla, Dominica, Seychelles from tax blacklist

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union removed Anguilla, Dominica and Seychelles from its tax haven blacklist Tuesday amid criticism that the trade bloc is letting countries off the hook, particularly in light of the recent Pandora Papers revelations.

Anguilla, Dominica and Seychelles were placed on the list because they did not meet tax transparency criteria. EU finance ministers, meeting in Luxembourg, endorsed a decision to move them to a "grey list" after the three agreed to a review of their tax systems.

The EU blacklist was set up in 2017 to tackle rampant tax evasion and is regularly updated. Nine "jurisdictions" remain listed as "non-cooperative": American Samoa, Fiji, Guam, Palau, Panama, Samoa, Trinidad and Tobago, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Vanuatu.

Anguilla, Dominica and Seychelles are now

listed as places that do not yet comply with all international tax standards but have committed to the principles of good tax governance. Costa Rica, Hong Kong, Malaysia, North Macedonia, Qatar and Uruguay were also added to this "grey list." Australia, Eswatini and Maldives were removed from it after reforming their tax systems.

The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and its media partners recently published a massive leak of offshore data dubbed the "Pandora Papers." The cache of almost 12 million files sheds light on the financial activities of many members of the global elite.

French EU lawmaker Aurore Lalucq, who authored a report on harmful tax practices, said she hopes the disclosures "will finally be a loud enough wake-up call for EU leaders" and the

European Commission to urgently reform the bloc's code of conduct for business taxation. Some of the world's most notorious tax havens are not even listed by the EU, Lalucq said in a statement. "Sadly, the countries that remain black-listed do not represent the most important financial flows," she said.

Chiara Putaturo, the tax expert at charity group Oxfam, described the EU blacklist as "a joke" and said it should "should penalize tax havens.

Instead, it lets them off the hook." She alleged that Anguilla and Seychelles "are at the heart of the latest tax scandal."

"While the Pandora Papers investigation blew the lid on how the super-rich continue to use tax havens to avoid paying their taxes, ordinary people are asked to foot the COVID-19 recovery bill," Putaturo said. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 38 Fencing swords
 - 1 Calendar items
 - 6 Wine barrel
 - 10 Deeply impressed
 - 11 Rashness
 - 12 Be of one mind
 - 13 Welles of "Citizen Kane"
 - 14 Telescope part
 - 15 Gazelle's cousin
 - 16 Yale rooster
 - 17 Sticky stuff
 - 18 Longing
 - 19 Store worker's perk
 - 22 Scorch
 - 23 Oxen connector
 - 26 Gymnast's finish
 - 29 Road gunk
 - 32 CD fore-runners
 - 33 Simple card game
 - 34 "I wish!"
 - 36 Crib occupant
 - 37 Egypt neighbor

DOWN

- 1 Used an old phone
- 2 Perfectly behaved
- 3 Lose luster
- 4 Some sheep
- 5 Take in
- 6 Complain
- 7 Test for purity
- 8 Fancy wrap
- 9 Thompson possible of "SNL"
- 11 Bare and bear, e.g.
- 15 Debtor's letters
- 17 Zoo favorites
- 20 Heel
- 21 Overly
- 24 Iraqi's neighbor
- 25 Made word
- 27 Mole, e.g.
- 28 Secret meetings
- 29 Inclines
- 30 Burning
- 31 Blue egg tender
- 35 Russian refusal
- 36 — Raton
- 38 Gift tag

S	P	I	N	Y	V	A	L	E	T
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Yesterday's answer

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34			35			36			
37						38			
39						40			
41						42			

10-6

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-6

CRYPTOQUOTE

Q W K N U F I Q N H B L X N T Q N Z N

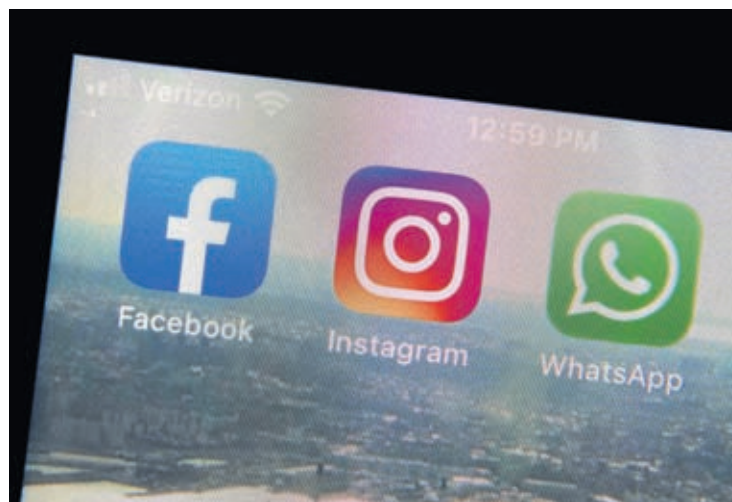
D W M X L S N S C W D X W Z S W S I Q N

X W P F W M H L S J T L I N Z K N B W S

— F W M Z X N W P F X M Z N

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THEY ARE SLAVES WHO FEAR TO SPEAK FOR THE FALLEN AND THE WEAK. — JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL

Outage highlights how vital Facebook has become worldwide



This photo shows the mobile phone app logos for, from left, Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp in New York, Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021.

Associated Press

By MAE ANDERSON

NEW YORK (AP) — The six-hour outage at Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp was a headache for many casual users but far more serious for the millions of people worldwide who rely on the social media sites to run their businesses or communicate with relatives, fellow parents, teachers or neighbors. When all three services went dark Monday, it was a stark reminder of the power and reach of Facebook, which owns the photo-sharing and messaging apps. Around the world, the loss of WhatsApp left many at a loss. In Brazil, the messaging service is by far the most widely used app in the country, installed on 99% of all smartphones, according to tech pollster Mobile Time.

WhatsApp has become essential in Brazil to communicate between friends and families, as well as for a variety of other tasks, such as ordering food. Offices, various services and even the courts had trouble making appointments, and phone lines became overwhelmed.

Hundreds of thousands of Haitians in their homeland and abroad fretted over the WhatsApp outage.

Many of the country's more than 11 million people depend it to alert one another about gang violence in particular neighborhoods or to talk to relatives in the U.S. about money transfers

and other urgent matters. Haitian migrants traveling to the U.S. rely on it to find each other or share key information such as safe places to sleep.

Nelzy Mireille, a 35-year-old unemployed woman who depends on money sent from relatives abroad, said she stopped at a repair shop in the capital of Port-au-Prince because she thought her phone was malfunctioning.

"I was waiting on confirmation on a money transfer from my cousin," she said. "I was so frustrated."

"I was not able to hear from my love," complained 28-year-old Wilkens Bourgogne, referring to his partner, who was in the neighboring Dominican Republic, buying affordable goods to bring back to Haiti.

He said he was concerned about her safety since they were unable to communicate for seven hours as Haiti struggles with a spike in gang violence.

"Insecurity makes everyone worry," he said.

In rebel-held Syria, where the telecommunication infrastructure has been disrupted by war, residents and emergency workers rely mostly on internet communication.

Naser AlMuhawish, a Turkey-based Syrian doctor who monitors coronavirus cases in rebel-held territory in Syria, said WhatsApp is the main communication method used with over 500 workers in the field.

They switched to Skype, but WhatsApp works better when internet service is shaky, he said. If there had been an emergency such as shelling that he needed to warn field workers about, there could have been major problems, he said. "Luckily this didn't happen yesterday during the outage," he said.

In Lima, Peru, the breakdown complicated dental technician Mary Mejia's job. Like most Peruvian medical workers, she uses WhatsApp for a multitude of tasks, including scheduling appointments and ordering crowns.

"Sometimes the doctor will be working on a patient and I need to contact a technician for job," she said. "To have to step away and make a phone call? It trips us up. We've become so accustomed to this tool." Millions of Africans use WhatsApp for all their voice calls, so "people felt they were cut off from the world," said Mark Tinka, a Ugandan who heads engineering at SEACOM, a South Africa-based internet service provider.

Many Africans also use WhatsApp to connect with relatives in other countries. Tinka's stepdaughter lives in Caldwell, Idaho, and lost her father on Sunday, but could not speak with her family back in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, to arrange travel for the funeral.

"It's amazing just how little folks understand the impact of three or four content companies on the utility of the Internet," Tinka said.

Facebook said the outage was due to an internal error related to a "configuration change" but gave no details.

The outage came amid crisis at Facebook, accused by a whistleblower on "60 Minutes" and on Capitol Hill of profiting from hate and division and suppressing research showing that Instagram contributes to body-image problems, eating disorders and thoughts of suicide among young women. □

Classifieds

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Newsy expands, bets on appetite for more news, less politics

By DAVID BAUDER

AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — With the expansion of its Newsy service this week, the E.W. Scripps Co. is betting that consumers have an appetite for more news, instead of just talk about news.

Newsy, primarily seen now online and through streaming services, is expanding its programming to 17 hours a day with an eventual goal of operating around-the-clock and, for the first time, will be available as an over-the-air television service.

The pitch from Kate O'Brian, head of the Scripps Networks' news group, and Newsy boss Eric Ludgood is simple: an unflashy service that goes beyond headlines to look at the breadth of news in some detail and without a political bias.

Its motto: "Be informed, not influenced."

"It's a little bit of going back to the future, what television news used to be," said O'Brian, a longtime producer and executive at ABC News.

O'Brian and Ludgood have spent the past few months doubling their staff to more than 200 people.



Oct. 1, 2021 image provided by Newsy/Scripps shows the Newsy control room in Atlanta.

Associated Press

Newsy began in 2008 as a syndicated news service in Columbia, Missouri, with the staff largely from the nearby University of Missouri journalism school. The service was bought by Scripps in 2014.

Its lineup will be populated by fresh faces to most news consumers. The prime-time lineup will feature anchor Natalie Allen, formerly of CNN, and the Washington-

based Chance Seales and Christian Bryant.

Americans have been underserved by cable news networks CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC, with their constant picking at the nation's polarized politics, O'Brian said.

"It's time for news organizations to look at the country in all of its many facets, not just red and blue," she said. Newsy will operate 14 news

bureaus across the country, including expected hubs like New York, Washington and Los Angeles. But Newsy also sought bureaus in locations that O'Brian felt needed more coverage from a national news team, like Seattle, Phoenix and Missoula, Montana. It is opening a bureau in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to hire a reporter based there with an expertise in indigenous

people.

As an illustration of its menu, a Newsy newscast last week contained stories on a vaccine being developed to counter opioid addiction, about birds facing extinction and the hottest and coolest markets for home sales.

There's a reason, however, that cable news competitors have largely evolved into opinionated political talk networks, particularly in prime time. People may say in surveys that they want more non-biased, straight news, but they're more inclined to dial in Tucker Carlson or Rachel Maddow and not leave, even with ratings dropping during the Biden administration after last year's peak.

ABC, CBS and NBC nightly newscasts remain strong. But some recently-touted new efforts at promoting straight news approaches offer cautionary tales. A three-hour "NewsNation" prime-time newscast on WGN America that began last September has largely failed, and former Fox anchor Shepard Smith's CNBC newscast gets relatively little attention. □

Jorja Fox hopes 'CSI: Vegas' will spark science appreciation



Jorja Fox poses for a portrait at CBS Radford Studios, Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

By ALICIA RANCILIO

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Some familiar faces will join the investigation into gruesome murders when "CSI: Vegas" premieres Wednesday on CBS.

Wallace Langham's David Hodges, William Petersen

as Gil Grissom and Jorja Fox's Sara Sidle reprise their roles for the 10-episode limited series, described as "an epilogue" to the original "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation."

New cast members include Matt Lauria, Paula Newsome and Mel Rodriguez.

The original "CSI," which aired its series finale in 2015 after 15 seasons, wowed viewers with the idea of using forensics to solve crimes. It created armchair experts out of people in their living rooms and coined the term "the CSI effect."

"CSI: Vegas" debuts 20 years to the day as its predecessor's premiere.

"In 2000, we were pretty sure that science could tell us somebody committed a crime or not. Now we're even more sure to the point where I would say, I don't know how anybody gets away with anything at all," Fox said. She hopes this series will once again draw people to the power of science — at a time when it's been scoffed at by naysayers of climate change and vaccines.

"We have a really smart audience and they want a

smart show," said Fox. "And yet we have a lot of people that believe in science less than ever. So it's a really interesting time to do a show about science. It would be amazing... to make science really fun and exciting and dazzling and mysterious again."

"CSI: Vegas" was originally conceived as a 20th anniversary special episode but those plans were scrapped and the writing evolved into an actual series. One central mystery will loom throughout, but each episode will also tackle a case of its own.

Fox says we'll see "a lighter version of Sara Sidle than we've ever seen before," which she enjoyed, because in the original version she dealt with burnout. This time, "she's not carrying the Vegas weight of the world on her shoulders."

A big reason why Fox said yes to playing Sidle again was because it would mean she would reteam with Petersen, as a happily married couple (in the past they were on and off and back on again.)

"My onscreen relationship with Billy Petersen, Sara and Grissom, is definitely the longest relationship of my life.

To get to be in a couple that's actually survived 21 years is very rare, and I think it's a really cool thing," she said.

She's even thought of other ways to reteam with Petersen in the future. Fox says they could easily play something akin to the old guys in the balcony from "The Muppets." She also adds "we could play a cool sibling thing, but I don't know if anybody would want to see that." □

The hate follows Bubba Wallace on his biggest day

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

TALLADEGA, Ala. (AP) —

It's been nearly 16 months since Bubba Wallace was waiting out a rainstorm in his motorhome in the Talladega Superspeedway infield when NASCAR informed its only full-time Black driver that a noose had been found in his garage stall. Wallace never saw the noose, never even stepped foot in the garage. It wasn't Wallace who called in the FBI — NASCAR did that — and from what he'd been told, Wallace was led to believe he'd been the victim of a hate crime.

When the FBI later ruled that the noose had been fashioned to the end of a garage door pull during NASCAR's visit to Talladega nine months earlier, making it mere coincidence that Wallace was assigned that stall, he was subjected to a barrage of online vitriol that spread to the grandstands at several tracks in the aftermath.

Wallace is used to being booed by now, and on the biggest day of his professional career the trolls came for him again when he darted to the front of the field to win Monday's rain-shortened, rescheduled race at Talladega.

It was rigged, many cried, saying NASCAR called the race only because it would benefit Wallace. That claim was one of the gentler barbs directed at Wallace, the first Black driver since Wendell Scott in 1963 to win at the top level of the sport. Not even in this pinnacle moment of his career could Wallace escape the doubters who somehow believe he cooked up the noose as a hoax in June 2020 to garner support during the nationwide racial reckoning following the death of George Floyd.

Wallace was not a victim of a hate crime, but the hate has followed him since he became vocal in matters of social justice and successfully called on NASCAR to ban the display of the Confederate flag at its events.

Denny Hamlin, a fellow



Bubba Wallace stands with the trophy after winning a NASCAR Cup series auto race Monday, Oct. 4, 2021, in Talladega, Ala.

Associated Press

driver and now Wallace's boss as co-owner along with Michael Jordan of the 23XI Racing team, encouraged Wallace to get off social media for his own mental health.

"People just automatically dislike me because I hired Bubba Wallace," said Hamlin, a first-year team owner also who scoffed at the notion the race was fixed.

"I spend way too much money and these teams spend too much money to fix it," he said. "Any time there's unique circumstances, it's fixed. When a team is close to winning a football game, they fumble on the one yard line, it's fixed. It's just (criticism from) someone that's having a bad day."

Wallace said after Monday's race he had followed Hamlin's advice several months ago and stopped reading social media.

"It's helped out a ton. I would go and read the comments (and) after a bad race I would become one of those haters that doesn't know anything. I would become one of them. Just start telling myself a bunch of dark thoughts," Wallace said. "In high school, I was always worried about what other people thought of me. I finally let that go."

"I'm not going to be able to please everybody. Doesn't

matter if I won by a thousand laps or won a rain-shortened race, not everybody is going to be happy with it," he said. "That's OK because I know one person that is happy and that's me because I'm a winner and they're not."

There's no telling what this victory, the first for Wallace in the Cup Series in 143 starts spanning four seasons, will do for his own confidence. Wallace has admitted to previous bouts of depression and the day before the rescheduled Talladega race Hamlin revealed that teaching Wallace "emotional regulation" will play a pivotal role in Wallace's development.

"Dealing with adversity, and these are things that he'd probably tell you, it's just getting too high, too low, having super high expectations and when things don't go perfectly as planned, how do you respond?" Hamlin said Sunday. "Every driver goes through some sort of adversity through the course of a race and how you respond to that is what dictates usually how you finish. I just think he needs to learn that emotional regulation because he wants it really, really bad."

Little did Hamlin know he'd be celebrating with his driver the very next day in the first victory for 23XI Racing,

a team that didn't even exist until last November but was built around Wallace and the eight figures in sponsorship he'd landed as companies new to NASCAR rushed to support him last season.

Wallace said he knew he'd win at Talladega and that he has witnesses he told ahead of time he'd be taking the checkered flag. But when the race was rained out Sunday and he sat in the infield the same way he did 16 months earlier, Wallace admitted it was "just like, man, déjà vu."

He considered reaching out to NASCAR President Steve Phelps, who was the one who came to Wallace's motorhome last year to inform him of the noose. "I was close to texting Steve Phelps saying 'I don't want (another) phone call,'" Wallace said. "It was basically the same thing that happened. Rain delay, called the race, going to race on Monday. You think about those things when you come to this place."

Wallace is working through the challenges that come from being Black in a predominately white sport with a past rooted in the Deep South. It can be hard: then-President Donald Trump last year falsely accused Wallace of making up the noose, and all four race

weekends at Talladega since the flag ban have been marked by a convoy of vehicles parading past the main entrance to the track with their own Confederate flags.

Wallace, who turns 28 on Friday, credited his mother and his new fiancée, Amanda, for helping him hold it all together. Neither was at the race; Amanda had returned to North Carolina for work on Monday, Wallace's mother has started a new life in Atlanta.

His mother sends him daily encouragement, he said, scriptures and "always is holding that positive light." When he finally got his mother and fiancée on the phone after his win, the tears flowed freely.

"I was one of those people that was telling myself that I haven't won. It's tough to kind of get out of that mentality," Wallace said, who admitted the toll the last two years has led to "some sleepless nights" that led him to seek help.


"Talking to professionals to help me stay focused on the task at hand. Really listening to my family. Amanda being there pushing me," Wallace said. "I go into some of these races and I just have a negative attitude. She rips me... to get in shape and to show up with some positivity."

"It's my family pushing me and knowing that as I'm being the realistic — sometimes pessimistic — person, they hold the optimism for me and help me show back up at the racetrack with a good mindset." □

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The 'Dinah' leaving desert as LPGA major gets new sponsor

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
AP Golf Writer

Next year will be the final leap into "Poppie's Pond," ending 40 years of the only LPGA major held on the same course and still known in some corners simply as the Dinah Shore.

The LPGA Tour announced Tuesday that Chevron is taking over as title sponsor of the year's first major starting in 2023 with plans to move it from the California desert to company headquarters in Houston.

It would replace the ANA Inspiration in a six-year deal. Japan-based ANA has been title sponsor at Mission Hills in Rancho Mirage, California, since 2015. The tournament celebrated 50 years at Mission Hills in April. It was designated a major in 1983, and it was Amy Alcott in 1988 who jumped into the pond around the 18th green to begin perhaps the most famous tradition in women's golf.



Lydia Ko, of New Zealand, in pink, forms a heart as she jumps into Champions Lake, or "Poppie's Pond," alongside her caddie, Jason Hamilton, left, after winning the LPGA Tour ANA Inspiration golf tournament at Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage, Calif., in this Sunday, April 3, 2016, file photo.

Associated Press

LPGA Commissioner Mollie Marcoux Samaan spoke of building new traditions, and while key details are still to be worked out, the

loss of so much tradition comes in exchange for a better date, improved television and a larger purse. "This partnership will be

a game-changer for the LPGA in so many ways," Marcoux Samaan said in a conference call. "It will allow us to elevate this ma-

for championship to new heights."

She said the prize money would increase 60% to \$5 million, with \$750,000 to the winner. One of the key pieces of the puzzle is where the Chevron Championship will be played. Ed McEnroe of IMG, which runs the tournament, said it likely would be in the Houston area.

The U.S. Women's Open was played last December at Champions Golf Club, the home of Jack Burke Jr. and previous host of a U.S. Open, Ryder Cup and the Tour Championship on the PGA Tour. Chevron is also said to be exploring Carlton Woods.

Marcoux Samaan said the Chevron Championship would have dedicated network coverage (the ANA Inspiration was on Golf Channel). Also key is moving it off the date one week before the Masters, especially with the recent addition of the Augusta National Women's Amateur. □

Cardinals climb to top spot in latest AP Pro32 poll



Arizona Cardinals running back James Conner, top, scores a touchdown during the second half in an NFL football game against the Los Angeles Rams Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021, in Inglewood, Calif.

Associated Press

By **SIMMI BUTTAR**
AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — And then there was one.

After four weeks there is only one unbeaten team left in the NFL. To the surprise of many, it's the Ari-

zona Cardinals. And those Cardinals have flown all the way to the top of the latest AP Pro32 poll. Arizona received eight of 12 first-place votes for 378 points in balloting Tuesday by media members who regularly cover the NFL. The Cardinals moved up four spots after routing the NFC West rival Los Angeles Rams 37-20. The Rams, who were on top a week ago, dropped to No. 4. "The NFL's surprise team so far," Newsday's Bob Glauber said. "Kyler Murray is off to a spectacular start, helped by an elite group of wide receivers, and the defense smothered Matthew Stafford to give Arizona the

lead in the uber-competitive NFC West." Arizona will try to remain perfect as it hosts another division foe, the San Francisco 49ers, on Sunday. The Buffalo Bills earned the other four first-place votes for 366 points as they moved up one spot to No. 2 overall. The Bills switched places with the defending Super Bowl champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who slipped to No. 3 after a hard-fought 19-17 win over the New England Patriots in Tom Brady's return to Foxborough. The Baltimore Ravens and the Green Bay Packers, who both have won three in a row, follow next. The

Ravens improved two places to No. 5 and will close Week 5 when they host the Indianapolis Colts on Monday night. "The Ravens are off to a 3-1 start despite playing three of their first four games on the road," said Rick Gosse of the Talk of Fame Network. "The schedule turns friendly at this point — the Ravens won't leave home for the next five weeks. Their next road game isn't until Nov. 11. In the meantime, Baltimore will have consecutive home games against the Colts, Chargers and Bengals, then a bye, then another home game against the Vikings." □